

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

It is difficult to attract users to a desired web site, as there are so many sites and web pages to be accessed via the Internet. A prize awarding function is implemented in a mail server. The function communicates
5 with a user. When the user accesses the homepage of the prize provision mechanism, a virtual slot machine starts to rotate. The user can win a prize based on a certain probability, which is adjusted in accordance with the access history of the user to the homepage. The time
10 period necessary to complete the slot machine amusement is also set to a desired value in consideration of what the user wants to do next.